

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ludger GRAUTE et al.

US National Stage Serial No.:
10/ 555,305

Confirmation No. 4991

Int'l Appl. No: PCT/DE2004/000917

Int'l Filing Date: 30 APRIL 2004

For: MULTIFUNCTIONAL LEVER

Atty Docket No. KKRT-00601-NUS

Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: LUGO, CARLOS

Paper Type: Corrected Section of Appeal Brief

Date transmitted: 11/24/08

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents

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/Sophie Chen/

SOPHIE CHEN

CORRECTED SECTION V OF APPEAL BRIEF

SIR:

This is a reply filed in response to Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed 11/24/2008.

In the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief, the Examiner has required the submission of a corrected summary of claimed subject matter because allegedly “the applicant has fail [sic] to clearly explain the subject matter defined in each independent claim. The use of ‘see paragraphs ## and ##’ is not a clear explanation of the subject matter.”

In response, Applicants submit that the reference to paragraph numbers and drawings in the summary of subject matter section of the Appeal Brief as originally filed was not as much to explain, as a concise explanation was provided in the text that proceeded the “see paragraphs” section; rather, the reference to paragraph numbers and drawings was to refer to the specification in the context of the explanation that was otherwise provided and to comply with 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v).

However, since the Examiner is of the opinion that no references to paragraph numbers and drawings are needed, and none should be provided, Applicants have removed the same.

As provided by MPEP 1205.03, the entire brief is not needed and only a paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter is submitted herewith. Entry of the Appeal Brief as corrected by this reply is respectfully requested.

Customer Number: **33,794**

Respectfully Submitted,

/Matthias Scholl/

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Date: November 24, 2008

V. CORRECTED SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent claim 11

The invention relates in independent claim 11 to a multifunctional lever comprising: a basic lever (1) for performing an actuating function; and one or more lever element(s) (2, 3) for performing one or more actuating functions; said basic lever (1) and at least one said lever element(s) (2, 3) being separate parts; and said basic lever (1) and said lever element(s) (2, 3) being rigidly and inseparably connected together.

Independent claim 20

The invention relates in independent claim 20 to a multifunctional lever comprising: a basic lever (1) for performing an actuating function; and one or more additional lever(s) (2, 3) for performing one or more actuating functions; wherein at least one said additional lever(s) (2, 3) are riveted, bolted, clipped, snapped-in, welded or glued to said basic lever (1).

Independent claim 29

The invention relates in independent claim 29 to a vehicle door latch comprising: a catch (10); a pawl (4); a basic lever (1) for performing an actuating function; and one or more additional lever(s) (2, 3) for performing one or more actuating functions; said basic lever (1) and said additional lever(s) (2, 3) being separate parts; and said basic lever (1) and said additional lever(s) (2, 3) being rigidly and inseparably connected together.